# INTERNATIONAL **SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON**

(By E. O. SELLERS, Acting Director of the Sunday School Course of the Moody Bible Institute, Chicago.) (Copyright, 1917, Western Newspaper Union.

### **LESSON FOR DECEMBER 30**

REVIEW-GOD'S REDEEMING LOVE.

LESSON TEXT—Read Psaims 1:23; 1:24. GOLDEN TEXT—With Jehovah there is foving kindness, and with him is plenteous redemption.—Ps. 130:7.

The lessons of the past year are the only ones in the six years course which are divided between the Old and the New Testament; therefore, at the close of this year we will review only the last two quarters, emphasizing the fourth which has just been completed.

Like Moses on Mount Nebo, let us glance over the whole period of the monorchy and note the progress and development of the Jewish people. The Jewish race is the marvel of all times, a nation without a country, scattered and peeled, chastised and driven from sea to sea, even slain in large numbers; yet possessed of a vitality which has caused them to endure through the centuries. Their contribution to the civilization of the world has been immeasurable. There is no walk or rank in life, in politics, literature, art, science, business, religion, or any other realm where they have not made their impress and rendered their contribution. Any movement which seeks to promote their welfare and to strengthen the bonds of sympathy which preserve race feelings, deserves the aid of all patriotic, liberty loving, God fearing people, for the Jews are still God's chosen heritage.

The united kingdom with its three kings, Saul, David and Solomon, lasted from about 1100 B. C. to 983 (Meecher), a period of 120 years. Then begins the divided kingdom-Judah and Israel side by side, a double experi-ment in the progress of the kingdom of God. This period extended from about 982 B. C. to approximately 723, or 721 B. C. Judah had a territory of about 8.400 square miles; Israel 9.400. Judah's capital was Jerusalem; in which was the temple; Israel's capital was Samaria, while it had two centers of Yalse worship. Judah was more sheltered than Israel from close contact with heathenism, especially politically and religiously. Judah had one dynnsty of rulers; cleven kings and one queen, all of them from the house of David. Israel had nineteen kings, belonging to nine different families or dynasties. Judah had several very good kings, and there were marked revivals of religion of prosperity and of deterioration of varying degrees, though resisted from time to time and helped along moral and religious lines through the work of Elijah and Elisha the prophets. The final period of events of this past quarter have reference to Judah alone from the days of Hezekiah, B. C. 722, to the time of the destruction of the city and the temple being destroyed 586 B. C., and lastly we have the period of the exile from the first captivity in 605 B. C. to the restoration and the new temple being crected 516 B. C. This was a period of great discipline and sifting as like unto wheat or of a purifying fire.

The return from exile and the spiritual nation, dates from about 536 to the close of Bible history, say 400 years before the coming of Christ. A map should be used, and the scholars ought to be familiar with the contemporaneous secular history. There are several particular lessons we ought to learn from this history.

First: Every fallure, every moral wrong, every fall into idolatry, every diminution of power for good is the result of a separation from God,-a departure from the ways of God and righteousness. It also shows us that God's constant solicitude that the Jews should be kept separate from heathenism and idolatry, had in it the best interests of his own people and could only lead to those blessings which he had prepared for his particular people.

Secondly: The overthrow of Israel is directly attributed to its complete abandonment to idolatry. Beginning with false worship and a dependence upon men, there was the introduction of idolatry and a development of evil which led to a rapid decline, the introduction of revolutions and the final

extinguishment of the kingdom. As to Judah, it finally was brought into captivity because that was the only way that God could purge the nation from the sin of idolatry. They must be taught that there is but one God, that the word of God must be obeyed, and that their safety lay in the faith which they placed in his promises. The leaders of this period were Zerubbabel, Ezra and Nehemlah, heroic men, men of great consecration and power; also, Esther, the heroine. The prophets of this period are Dan-Jel, Isalah. Haggai, Zechariah. Malachi.



## Dora's Resolution

"Wish you happy New Year!" called Dorn from her pillow, to her sister Agnes, who stood before the dressing-table, brushing her curls, "What makes you get up so early? It isn't breakfast time yet. It is so warm and cozy here in bed, I'm going to lie here and think up lots of good resolutions for the new year. Then I can write them out after breakfast. Why don't you make some resolutions, Agnes?"

"I don't know, I hadn't thought about it," replied the little girl. have been hurrying to get dressed, for I was afraid mamma would want me; Freddie has been crying all the morning."

"Fred is such a cry-baby!" returned down. Tell mamma I am coming right away," and she crawled out of bed as Agnes closed the door.

Dora reached the dining room just as her mamma and sister set the

New Year Song.

What now are you bringing?

May day skies and butterflies,

And merry birds n-singing?

"New Year, true year,

Frolic, play all the day

But the merry echo,

"New Year, true year,

But the merry echo.

But the merry echo.

Not an hour of school?"

The laughing New Year echo,

Only answered, "School!"

What now are you bringing?

Summer roses springing gay,

Summer vines a-swinging?

Jest and sport, the merriest sort,

Never a thought of work?"

The laughing New Year echo,

Only answered, "Work!"

"New Year, true year, What now are you bringing?

Autumn fruits all fire-ripe,

Autumn horns a-ringing?

Keen delight o' moonlight nights,

When dull folks are abed?

The laughing New Year echo.

-Laura E. Richards.

Only answered, "Bed!"

brenkfast on the table. Fredate had been restored to good humor, and everybody seemed very happy as they gathered around the first morning meal of the new year. Bright faces, merry voices and good wishes made it a charming family group.

Dorn and Agnes cleared the table when the meal was finished, for there was no servant in the house, and the two sisters helped much with the work, that mamma might get more time to

"Shall I wash or wipe the dishes?"

nsked Dorn.
"Oh, I'll wash them, and you can wipe them," said Agnes, "for you'd rather, and I don't care."

"Well, then I'm going upstairs to write out my New Year's resolutions; I'll be down by the time you have the dishes ready to rinse," and Dora ran up to her room.

Dora spoiled several sheets of paper before she had her resolutions writ-"Well, perhaps I'd better get ten to suit her. Finally she read them over with a certain degree of pride:

#### New Year's Resolutions of Dora Buckingham Prescott.

"I will get up early in the morning and help mamma with the breakfast, "I will go to bed at night without making a fuss about it.

"I will dress Freddie every morning.

"I will take my turn at washing the dishes, even though I like better to wipe them,

"I will dust the parlor every day, and not leave it for Agnes,

"I will not forget to make the beds when it comes my week.

"I will take care of my bird every

"I will amuse Freddle, and not be cross to him once this year.

"I will sew on my buttons without being told. "I will not let Agnes do my share

of the work, just because she is oblig-"I will always be pleasant to every-

body-

"Dora, mamma wants you-" "Oh, don't come bothering me now, Aggle !" "Mamma wants you to see to Fred-

"Oh, dear! Why can't you?" "I've got to go down to the post of-

fice." "Oh! Why, have you finished the dishes?"

"All done," said Agnes, with a little smile that had not a mite of superiority in it. "But I meant to come and wipe

them," said Dora, with a guilty flush. "Never mind," said Agnes, "I knew you were busy."

"Dora followed her sister downstairs, thinking she would put the rooms in order and feed the canary before Agnes returned. But to her surprise, the parlor and sitting room were dusted, Dick was eating fresh seed with great relish, and it was ten o'clock. How long a time she had spent over those resolutions!

After making Baby Fred happy with a big block house, Dora slipped upstairs and brought down her paper of "New Year's Resolutions" and quietly laid it on the parlor fire,

"I'll keep my eyes and ears open, as Agnes does, and try to be as pleas-ant as she is. That will be better than writing out a thousand resolutions!" -Youth's Companion.

## Old Year Adieu

Old Father Time, with visage grim,

Marks finls on another year; His harvest he has gathered in; The swath was wide both far and near.

The strife of battle rages round The ranks of fighters in the

But clashing arms and shouts resound

Of victor and of conquered

The aged sire,-with trembling hands And hoary look of silvery

white, Perceives the passing of the sands,

The sunset's glow, the clouds of night.

Mayhap there is a vacant chair At home, but recently reslaned-A loved one gone above to wear

The crown of bliss by angels

The path to glory may not lead With roses strewn about the feet,

But hope and strive by word and deed Some soul to cheer. The New Year greet!

-T. J. Dehey in Pittsburgh Dispatch.

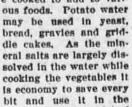


can. Courage consists in equality to the problem before us.—Emerson.

It is right to be contented with what we have; never with what we are.— James Mackintosh.

#### HELPFUL HINTS.

Save all vegetable liquors in which regetables are cooked to add to vari-



food in some way. A tablespoonful of condensed milk added to a bowl of cream that has been whipped, stirring it in well, adds to its flavor and increases the amount that much.

A small flashlight is a great convenience around closets or cuphoards that are dark. They are useful also in looking into cupboards and drawers. When food scorches and spolls a

good dish, do not scrape it, but add a tublespoonful of soda and enough cold water to cover the bottom of the dish, boil up and then set it back to soften.

A glassful of hot milk will help many to remedy sleeplessness, taken

in sips just before retiring. For tired and aching feet a tablespoonful of formaldehyde in a bowl of hot water, allowing the feet to soak 10 or 15 minutes, will greatly relieve them. To rub them with alcohol or vinegar, will be found soothing.

Add a cupful of cooked rice to a meat loaf. It will make the meat go much farther.

A Turkish towel wrung out of hot water and applied to the back of the neck will often relieve a sick head-

Lubricate your meat chopper with glycerine. It will not flavor the food or become rancid.

A tenspoonful of glycerine added to grape Jelly will keep the crystals from forming in it, which are so objection-

If a little cold water is added to butter and sugar when creaming it will cream twice as quickly,

If we could read the secret history of our enemies, we should find in each man's life serrow and suffering enough to disarm all hostility.—Longfellow.

## HELPFUL HINTS AND ECONOMIES

A most tasty fat for various uses mny be made by trying out suct and



mixing it while still hot with an equal portion of lard, stir until well mixed, and it will always stay soft

enough to be mixed into any food. When giving a

baby medicine, place the tip of the spoon against the roof of the baby's mouth; in this way it is impossible for the child to choke or object to the contents of the spoon by sputtering. When teaching a baby to eat from a spoon the same method will prove use-

An old cook claims that all fish are better if allowed to lie two hours or more before they are cooked.

to function will be made active again by dropping it into hot water. The heat softens the rubber and expands A plane tuner advises the use of a

small dish of water in the back part of the instrument to counteract the dryness of the room due to furnace heat. This will keep the plane in

The old batteries which are useless and discarded from the auto may be hurned in the grate after a wood fire has been started, making the most beautiful colors, especially delightful for a fireside party.

A tablespoonful of olive oil with a few drops of vinegar will case a midnight cough when all else fails.

Half of a wooden clothes pin will

keep a wind-rattled window quiet through the sleeping hours. A clothes pin or two will be found convenient to carry in one's suit case for various emergencies besides noisy windows. A large market basket kept in the

kitchen and used to carry down cellar, will save many steps, canned fruit, jelly and vegetables may be carried up in it. Such a basket will be found useful for carrying things upstairs and down.

A weighted window that sticks may be loosened by taking the cords in each hand and pulling them out until the weights are at the top, letting go suddenly, they will drop back with such force that it will start the window open, when no amount of pushing will do it.

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